

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS
USAID COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT EDG-A-00-02-00030-00
SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE
(AMENDMENT)

WORK PLAN
1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2005

INTRODUCTION

In September 2005, USAID approved an amendment extending and expanding the project "Psychological support for victims of torture in the Inter-American System." Accordingly, we are presenting the work plan for this new project for October-December 2005.

During this quarter, the actions will focus on laying the technical and technological groundwork and organizing the coordination needed to implement the activities proposed for the project in 2006 and 2007.

In the project proposal submitted to USAID, the IIHR named 10 countries on which the work would focus. Uruguay was not among them but the project leaders have since decided to work in that country instead of Ecuador, as the conditions are more favorable (a number of organizations linked to the human rights movement are involved in helping victims to obtain redress for rights violations).

With regard to the activities proposed in the project profile approved by USAID, no actions will be carried out between October and December 2005 under the "Strategies for sensitizing civil society" component.

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

**AMENDMENT TO USAID COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT EDG-A-00-02-00030-00
PROJECT: SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE**

WORK PLAN 1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2005

FINAL GOAL: To promote a comprehensive process of psychosocial support for torture victims through prevention, efforts to raise awareness and sensitize the public, and the promotion of timely and effective support for victims

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: CSOs and public institutions are better equipped and more knowledgeable about how to help torture victims and prevent future acts of torture

Goal 1: To promote psychological support actions and the coordination of psychological contributions with the legal strategy of cases involving torture victims in the Inter-American System

ACTIVITY	METHOD	DESCRIPTION	RATIONALE	INSTITUTION(S) RESPONSIBLE AND COORDINATION	INTERMEDIATE STEPS	EXPECTED RESULTS	IMPACT INDICATORS
Application of legal-psychological methodology for providing support to victims and expert testimony Objective: Working with organizations representing victims in cases brought before the Inter-American	The criterion for selecting the professionals for this phase is that they must have extensive professional experience in psychosocial work with victims of serious human rights violations. Preference will be given to professionals who belong to, or have worked in, recognized	During this quarter (October-December 2005), a database will be set up containing information about professionals who could provide expert testimony. Having a large number of candidates will make it possible to select the right expert for each case.	During the first phase of the project, it became evident that torture victims who have recourse to the Inter-American System need to have a psychology professional to whom they can turn for emotional support. It also became clear that it was important that the psychologists help prepare the cross-	The IIHR will create the database of experts	Gather information about professionals who meet the criteria for inclusion in the database	Database on experts available	More knowledge about how to enhance the quality of the comprehensive psychological support provided to torture victims whose cases are being considered by the protection bodies of the Inter-American System Legal NGOs are

System, to provide victims with comprehensive support by means of a legal-psychological methodology	organizations and have experience in working with legal teams.		examinations and collaborate with the legal strategy, implementing a legal-psychological methodology for handling the cases and the victims. The importance of the interdisciplinary work was one of the lessons learned in implementing the project, which got under way in 2002.				<p>more knowledgeable about how to deal with torture victims</p> <p>The legal and psychological interdisciplinary work involved in handling torture cases that are being considered by the protection bodies of the Inter-American System is better integrated</p>
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ACTIVITY	METHOD	DESCRIPTION	RATIONALE	INSTITUTION(S) RESPONSIBLE AND COORDINATION	INTERMEDIATE STEPS	EXPECTED RESULTS	IMPACT INDICATORS
Emotional support for victims Objective: To provide emotional support to torture victims who testify before the Inter-American Court	The aim is to set up and train a support group, together with the School of Psychology of the University of Costa Rica or other entities, to provide psychological support to torture victims during the hearings of the Inter-American Court, beginning in 2006. The School of Psychology will be contacted to determine the method of work, the objectives, the activities to be implemented and the responsibilities of each institution in the process of	Between October and December 2005, the project will contact the School of Psychology of the University of Costa Rica (UCR) or other entities to determine how the team of psychology professionals will be set up and trained to support torture victims whose cases are being considered by the Inter-American Court.	The first phase of the project confirmed that torture victims and their relatives need to receive psychological support during the public hearings held by the bodies of the Inter-American System. This support will help them cope with the emotional turmoil that this situation creates and be better prepared to give their testimony.	The IIHR will coordinate with the UCR's School of Psychology and, if necessary, other related entities, to agree on the modus operandi. The IIHR will work with Costa Rican institutions because the headquarters of the Inter-American Court is located in that country.	Establish contact with counterparts Define method of work Prepare preliminary training program	Method of work defined for supporting victims who take part in the hearings of the Inter-American Court	More psychological support for torture victims and their relatives who appear before the Inter-American Court Enhanced professional capabilities for providing psychological support to torture victims during legal proceedings

	providing psychological support to torture victims who take part in public hearings of the Inter-American Court. The profile of the members of the support group, and the method of selecting them, will also be established.						
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Goal 2: To implement institution building actions and promote national networks for providing comprehensive support to torture victims

ACTIVITY	METHOD	DESCRIPTION	RATIONALE	INSTITUTION(S) RESPONSIBLE AND COORDINATION	INTERMEDIATE STEPS	EXPECTED RESULTS	IMPACT INDICATORS
<p>Training of national networks in the integrated management of cases involving torture victims</p> <p>Objective: To provide training and facilitate the creation of national networks to carry out actions on behalf of torture victims</p>	<p>The IIHR will facilitate the creation of intersectoral national networks and provide them with training and technical assistance. These national networks will comprise NGOs involved in the legal defense of torture victims and others that that offer psychosocial care, medical associations, ombudsman (officials who visit prisons and other places of detention) and public defenders. The project will work with the intersectoral national networks of 10 countries in the hemisphere.</p>	<p>During this quarter (October-December 2005), the project will identify possible members of the network in each country, and the initiative will be promoted and disseminated. The project will work with national networks in the following 10 western-hemisphere countries: Colombia, Peru, Chile, Guatemala, Paraguay, Mexico, Brazil, El Salvador, Uruguay and Argentina.</p>	<p>The project identified the need to train national networks to help them do a better job of combating torture and supporting victims, and thus prevent acts of this kind in the future. The project also identified the need to work with intersectoral and interdisciplinary networks. Strengthening the link between public institutions and CSOs will make it possible to meet victims' needs properly. Adopting the "training of trainers" method, the members of the network will acquire the skills</p>	<p>The project will work with counterparts in the countries selected and the IIHR's Department of Public Institutions to conduct an inventory of the organizations and institutions that exist in each of the countries concerned.</p> <p>The local USAID mission in each country selected will be informed of the creation of the respective national network.</p>	<p>Identify public institutions and CSOs that could form part of the national networks. Identify and hire consultants to prepare working documents: documentation of torture cases, case studies of defenses and successful experiences, mechanisms for monitoring the state's actions</p>	<p>Possible members of the national networks identified</p> <p>Initiative disseminated and promoted among possible members of the networks</p>	<p>Institutions better equipped to meet the needs of torture victims</p> <p>More coordinated interdisciplinary and intersectoral capabilities for preventing torture and assisting victims</p>

	All the countries selected have a record of systematic human rights violations regarding which complaints have been filed at the international level.		needed to train representatives of other organizations that belong to the national network.				
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ACTIVITY	METHOD	DESCRIPTION	RATIONALE	INSTITUTION(S) RESPONSIBLE AND COORDINATION	INTERMEDIATE STEPS	EXPECTED RESULTS	IMPACT INDICATORS
<p>National workshops to train NGOs</p> <p>Objective: To train psychosocial support, medical and legal defense organizations in the use of the methodology for providing psychosocial and legal support to torture victims, promoting their recovery and helping them take their place in society once again</p>	<p>The IIHR will train NGOs that provide torture victims with legal aid and medical and psychosocial support in the 10 countries listed under the previous activity. The project will identify the NGOs that exist in each country (mapping of organizations). It will also identify the consultants who will prepare the specialized documents to be used in the training process. The people trained will be encouraged to disseminate the knowledge acquired.</p>	<p>During this quarter (October-December 2005), the project will establish contacts with the counterpart organizations in as many of the selected countries as possible, to disseminate information about the project and the proposed training. By December 2005 at the latest, the project will have identified the consultants who will prepare the specialized documents for the training workshops.</p>	<p>The training needs of NGOs that work with torture victims were identified during the execution of the project “Psychological support for victims of torture in the Inter-American System.” The training given will serve as a platform whereby the IIHR will facilitate the internal strengthening of the organizations in the area of support for torture victims.</p>	<p>The IIHR will be responsible for identifying and contacting organizations, drawing on the information provided by existing counterparts.</p> <p>The local USAID missions in the countries selected will be informed of the implementation of the training workshops.</p>	<p>Identify the organizations that exist in each country selected</p> <p>Establish contacts with some of the NGOs identified</p> <p>Identify consultants to prepare specialized documents</p>	<p>A provisional list of the organizations to be trained</p> <p>Consultants selected to prepare specialized documents</p>	<p>Organizations better equipped to provide comprehensive support to torture victims, from an interdisciplinary perspective</p> <p>The organizations have increased capabilities and knowledge for monitoring the State’s actions with regard to human rights and reparations for victims</p>

Goal 3: To implement actions to sensitize society in general and civil society and state sectors involved with torture victims, in order to prevent a repetition of acts of torture and raise awareness of the fate of survivors

ACTIVITY	METHOD	DESCRIPTION	RATIONALE	INSTITUTION(S) RESPONSIBLE AND COORDINATION	INTERMEDIATE STEPS	EXPECTED RESULTS	IMPACT INDICATORS
Dissemination of specialized information by the project through institutional mechanisms Objective: To use the IIHR's institutional mechanisms to disseminate specialized information about the prevention of torture and methodologies for providing support to victims, and information about the project and what it has achieved	The staff will program a strategy for disseminating the project's outputs via two of the IIHR's pertinent emblematic courses. In 2006, a publication containing a user-friendly version of the jurisprudence of the Inter-American System will be produced for distribution in forums and conferences related to the subject. The specialized information will be disseminated via the website, with a specific page (specialized section) devoted to the subject.	During this quarter (October-December 2005), the staff will identify the emblematic IIHR courses to which the subject matter of the project is relevant. The staff will also identify the contents of the user-friendly publication about the jurisprudence of the Inter-American System. The existing specialized section will be redesigned (access is currently restricted, as the methodology is being validated), its technological platform will be adapted and documents and information will be updated with a view to opening up the	The aim is to raise awareness and sensitize the different sectors that take part in IIHR courses to the importance of implementing actions to prevent torture. These courses will also be used to disseminate other activities financed by the Torture Victims Fund in Latin America. One of the main outputs of the project "Psychological support for victims of torture in the Inter-American System" was the creation of a specialized section of the IIHR's website (access to which was	The staff will coordinate with the IIHR's departments and support units in disseminating the work of the project.	Identify courses Identify consultant for user-friendly publication on the jurisprudence of the Inter-American System	IIHR's institutional mechanisms for disseminating information about the project Specialized section redesigned and updated and technological platform adapted	More specialized information about the prevention of torture and support for victims Greater dissemination of the jurisprudence of the Inter-American System with regard to reparations for torture victims

		section to the general public.	restricted to team members) to develop the methodology of for providing psychological support to victims and the coordination of the network-team. The section's content will be incorporated into a new section open to all stakeholders.				
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ACTIVITY	METHOD	DESCRIPTION	RATIONALE	INSTITUTION(S) RESPONSIBLE AND COORDINATION	INTERMEDIATE STEPS	EXPECTED RESULTS	IMPACT INDICATORS
Research and documentation Objective: To contribute to the quality of the psychological support that torture victims receive and document the successful experiences generated by the project	In 2006, the project will research the types of psychological treatment currently used to help torture victims in Latin America. Throughout the project, the IIHR will monitor and conduct an annual evaluation to gauge the extent to which it achieves its objectives and satisfaction with, and the usefulness of, the actions implemented. The team in charge of implementing the project will conduct regular internal evaluations that will be supported	During this quarter (October - December 2005), the project will establish contact with the Torture Victims Fund to request technical assistance in monitoring and evaluating the project. The Fund will be asked to appoint an expert to help the project team design a monitoring and evaluation mechanism (instruments to be used, monitoring method, etc.).	The evaluation and monitoring actions will make it possible to evaluate the attainment of objectives, the implementation of activities and the results obtained. The team will incorporate the lessons learned in order to meet the goals set. Work of this kind is consistent with the vision of the Torture Victims Fund, whose beneficiaries can receive technical assistance with the monitoring and evaluation of projects.	An external expert will help design the monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Via USAID, the project will request technical assistance from the Torture Victims Fund for the design of this mechanism.	Via USAID, contact and coordinate with the Torture Victims Fund, to request technical assistance	Commitment to collaborate with the Torture Victims Fund in designing a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the project	Improvement in the quality of the work of evaluating and monitoring implementation of the project

	by an expert in project monitoring and follow-up. The team will meet once a year to assess the results and make the pertinent recommendations.						
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SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES FOR OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2005

PROJECT: SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

ACTIVITIES	OCT	NOV	DEC
Create database of experts			
Contact School of Psychology to establish method of work of group that will support victims			
Define method of work of group that will support victims			
Prepare preliminary training program			
Identify possible members of intersectoral networks			
Promote and disseminate training initiative for intersectoral networks			
Map NGOs that exist in the 10 countries selected by the project			
Contact counterpart NGOs to disseminate the project			
Select and hire consultants to prepare specialized working documents			
Select and hire consultant for user-friendly version of the jurisprudence of the Inter-American System			
Identify emblematic courses under which project-related activities will be carried out			
Redesign and update specialized section			
Contact Torture Victims Fund to request technical assistance with monitoring and evaluation			